Mr. M. Raman Menon (*Commissioner of Excise*): I want notice.

TAPPING OF SWEET-TODDY—KUNNAMKULAM RANGE—FIRST HALF OF 1114.

360. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan (*Ezhuvas-Talappalli*): Will the Government be pleased to state:—(*a*) the number of applications for licenses for sweet toddy tapping received by the Excise Authorities of the Kunnamkulam Excise Range in the first half of 1114;

(*b*) how many of them were granted;

(*c*) how many were refused and for what reasons?

Mr. M. Raman Menon (*Commissioner of Excise*):

(*a*) 659.

(*b*) 645.

(*c*) 14; 3 applicants were minors, 2 old offenders, one an old incapacitated man, 7 persons applied for the sake of others who were disqualified and one was a close relative of an old offender, residing in one and the same house.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan (*Ezhuvas-Talappalli*): Have the Government noted the disparity in the number of applications received in the Irinjalakkuda, Chittur and the Kunnamkulam ranges?

Mr. M. Raman Menon (*Commissioner of Excise*): I want notice.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan (*Ezhuvas-Talappalli*): In answer to question No. 360 it is stated that 659 applications have been received, and the answer to (*a*) and (*b*) of question No. 357, the number of applications received from the Irinjalakkuda and Chalakkudi ranges is 8 and 13. That gives strength to my fear that all the former statements are not correct.

Mr. A. L. Antony (*Irinjalakkuda*): May I know whether the sweet toddy tapping is from the palmyra or the cocoanut trees?

Mr. M. Raman Menon (*Commissioner of Excise*): From the palmyra trees.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu (*Kunnamkulam*): May I know whether the illicit tapping of toddy is a moral offence?

Mr. President: Order, Order.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly